

# California Field Crop Review



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## HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Field Crop Acreage, Yield, and Production .....	1-2
Grain Stocks .....	2
Farm Prices Received .....	3
California Cash Income by Commodity .....	4

Valley have been virtually ideal for most of September. Crop progress was still at least a week behind normal in most fields due to the predominantly cool growing season.

Upland cotton production in the U.S. is forecast at 15.7 million bales, up 17 percent from 1998. Yields are expected to be 576 pounds per acre, 43 pounds below last year. Harvested acreage was up 25 percent from the previous year. American Pima cotton production is forecast at 704 thousand bales, up 59 percent from 1998. Yield per acre is indicated to be 1,093 pounds, up 189 pounds from last year.

## FIELD CROP ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

**COTTON:** Upland cotton production in California is forecast at 1.45 million bales, 27 percent above last year. The yield is forecast at 1,190 pounds per acre, 34 percent above 1998. American Pima cotton is forecast at 620 thousand bales, up 76 percent. Growing conditions in the San Joaquin

(Continued on Page 2.)

## FIELD CROP ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES, 1998-99

Crop	Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre			Production		
	1998	Forecast 1999	Unit	1998	Forecast 1999	Unit	1998	Forecast 1999
	Thousand Acres						Thousands	
CALIFORNIA								
Wheat, Winter <u>a/</u>	380.0	370.0	Tons	1.80	2.34	Tons	684.0	865.8
Wheat, Durum <u>a/</u>	175.0	85.0	Tons	2.70	3.15	Tons	472.5	267.8
Oats <u>a/</u>	30.0	30.0	Tons	1.20	1.36	Tons	36.0	40.8
Barley <u>a/</u>	125.0	125.0	Tons	1.44	1.54	Tons	180.0	192.0
Corn for Grain	260.0	235.0	Tons	4.48	5.18	Tons	1,164.8	1,217.3
Rice, All	478.0	548.0	Cwt.	68.40	75.00	Cwt.	32,698.0	41,100.0
Long	9.0	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	59.70	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	537.0	<u>b/</u>
Medium	433.0	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	69.90	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	30,267.0	<u>b/</u>
Short	36.0	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	52.60	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	1,894.0	<u>b/</u>
Cotton, Upland <u>c/</u>	620.0	585.0	Lbs.	887.00	1,190.00	Bales	1,146.0	1,450.0
Cotton, American-Pima <u>c/</u>	180.0	259.0	Lbs.	941.00	1,149.00	Bales	352.8	620.0
Sugar Beets	100.0	105.0	Tons	28.30	31.00	Tons	2,830.0	3,255.0
Beans, Dry Edible <u>d/</u>	105.0	132.0	Cwt.	19.50	22.00	Cwt.	2,048.0	2,900.0
Hay, All	1,570.0	1,570.0	Tons	5.17	5.32	Tons	8,115.0	8,359.0
Alfalfa Hay	1,020.0	1,030.0	Tons	6.50	6.70	Tons	6,630.0	6,901.0
Other Hay	550.0	540.0	Tons	2.70	2.70	Tons	1,485.0	1,458.0
UNITED STATES								
Wheat, Winter <u>a/</u>	40,126.0	35,542.0	Tons	1.41	1.43	Tons	56,422.0	50,951.1
Wheat, Durum <u>a/</u>	3,728.0	3,859.0	Tons	1.11	0.86	Tons	4,143.6	3,301.3
Oats <u>a/</u>	2,755.0	2,465.0	Tons	0.96	0.96	Tons	2,655.7	2,366.5
Barley <u>a/</u>	5,864.0	4,778.0	Tons	1.44	1.43	Tons	8,451.0	6,817.8
Corn for Grain	72,604.0	70,925.0	Tons	3.76	3.74	Tons	273,310.4	265,075.4
Rice, All	3,317.0	3,571.0	Cwt.	56.69	59.45	Cwt.	188,051.0	212,296.0
Long <u>e/</u>	2,608.0	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	54.30	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	141,624.0	152,425.0
Medium <u>e/</u>	671.0	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	66.25	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	44,453.0	56,099.0
Short <u>e/</u>	38.0	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	51.95	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	1,974.0	3,772.0
Cotton, Upland <u>c/</u>	10,448.8	13,096.0	Lbs.	619.00	576.00	Bales	13,475.9	15,726.0
Cotton, American-Pima <u>c/</u>	234.8	309.2	Lbs.	904.00	1,093.00	Bales	442.3	704.0
Sugar Beets	1,451.7	1,525.4	Tons	22.50	22.30	Tons	32,606.0	34,009.0
Beans, Dry Edible <u>d/</u>	1,913.9	1,903.0	Cwt.	16.11	16.69	Cwt.	30,828.0	31,755.0
Hay, All	60,016.0	62,051.0	Tons	2.52	2.60	Tons	151,338.0	161,385.0
Alfalfa Hay	23,642.0	23,968.0	Tons	3.47	3.57	Tons	82,010.0	85,487.0
Other Hay	36,374.0	38,083.0	Tons	1.91	1.99	Tons	69,328.0	75,898.0

a/ Revised.

b/ To be released January 2000.

c/ Cotton yield in pounds; production in 480-pound net weight bales.

d/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

e/ Rice class forecasts for 1999 are based on five-year average of class percentages.

## FIELD CROP ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION -- *Continued*

**RICE:** California's 1999 rice crop forecast, at 41.1 million cwt., was 26 percent above 1998. The 548 thousand acres for harvest were 15 percent above the previous year. Yield is forecast at 7,500 pounds per acre, up 10 percent from last year.

The 1999 U.S. rice production is forecast at a record high 212 million cwt., 13 percent above 1998. Area for harvest is expected to total 3.57 million acres, 8 percent above last year. The average yield is up 5 percent from the previous year.

**HAY:** Production of alfalfa hay in California is forecast at 6.90 million tons, 4 percent above last year's crop. Other hay production is forecast at 1.46 million tons, 2 percent below last year.

Nationally, alfalfa hay production is estimated at 85.5 million tons, up 4 percent from 1998. Other hay production, at 75.9 million tons, was 9 percent above a year earlier.

**SUGAR BEETS:** California sugar beet production is forecast at 3.26 million tons, up 15 percent from the 1998 crop. Acreage for harvest, at 105 thousand, is up 5 percent. Yields are expected to be up 10 percent from last year.

U.S. sugar beet production is forecast at 34.0 million tons, an increase of 4 percent from 1998. Harvested acreage is up 5 percent, and expected yields are down 1 percent from last year.

**CORN:** California's 1999 corn for grain production is expected to total 1.22 million tons, 5 percent above last year. Acreage for harvest, at 235 thousand, was down 10 percent from last year. Forecast yield, at 5.18 tons per acre, was 16 percent above a year earlier.

The U.S. corn for grain forecast is 265 million tons, down 3 percent from 1998. The average yield is forecast at 3.74 tons, 1 percent below last year.

**DRY BEANS:** California's 1999 all dry bean production is forecast at 2.90 million cwt., 42 percent above the 1998 crop. The 132 thousand acres for harvest were 26 percent above last year. The forecast yield of 2,200 pounds per acre is 13 percent above the 1998 yield. Harvest continued through September with good quality reported.

U.S. dry edible bean production is forecast at 31.8 million cwt., up 3 percent from a year earlier. Harvested acreage is down 1 percent, while average yields were up 4 percent.

**WINTER WHEAT:** California's final 1999 winter wheat production, estimated at 866 thousand tons, was 27 percent above last year's output. Average yields came in at 2.34 tons per acre, 30 percent above 1998. Harvested acreage was estimated at 370 thousand, 3 percent below last year.

U.S. winter wheat production was estimated at 51.0 million tons, 10 percent below the 1998 crop.

**BARLEY:** California's final 1999 barley production, estimated at 192 thousand tons, was 7 percent above last year. The average yield of 1.54 tons per acre was 7 percent above 1998. Acreage harvested for grain remained the same as the previous year at 125 thousand acres.

U.S. barley production is estimated at 6.82 million tons, down 19 percent from last year's output.

## SEPTEMBER 1 GRAIN STOCKS

Stocks of wheat in all positions in California on September 1, 1999 totaled 816 thousand tons, 1 percent below the 822 thousand tons on hand September 1, 1998. U.S. wheat stocks totaled 73.8 million tons, 3 percent above the 71.6 million tons on hand a year earlier. California barley stocks totaled 66.0 thousand tons, 19 percent below the 81.6 thousand tons on hand September 1, 1998. U.S. barley stocks in all positions are estimated at 7.13 million tons, 9 percent below the stocks of September 1, 1998.

Off-farm stocks of oats in California totaled 2.64 thousand tons, 11 percent above the 2.38 thousand tons stored last year. U.S. total oat stocks, at 2.38 million tons, were down 8 percent from the 2.59 million tons stored last year. California off-farm stocks of corn on September 1 were 94.7 thousand tons, 64 percent above the 57.8 thousand tons of a year earlier. U.S. total stocks of corn were 50.3 million tons, up 37 percent from the 36.6 million tons on hand September 1, 1998. California off-farm sorghum stocks were not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. U.S. total grain sorghum stocks, at 1.82 million tons, were 33 percent above the 1.37 million tons on hand September 1, 1998.

### GRAIN STOCKS IN ALL POSITIONS

(Includes stocks under support & government owned grain.)

Grain and Position	Sept. 1, 1998	June 1, 1999	Sept. 1, 1999
	Tons		
<b>ALL WHEAT</b>			
California			
On-Farm	75,000	36,000	60,000
Off-Farm <sup>1/</sup>	<u>747,150</u>	<u>226,080</u>	<u>756,240</u>
Total	822,150	262,080	816,240
U.S. Total	71,564,700	28,377,540	73,777,680
<b>CORN</b>			
California <sup>2/</sup>			
Off-Farm <sup>1/</sup>	57,792	151,312	94,724
U.S. Total	36,618,484	101,254,300	50,298,276
<b>BARLEY</b>			
California <sup>2/</sup>			
Off-Farm <sup>1/</sup>	81,624	29,544	66,024
U.S. Total	7,827,648	3,399,672	7,126,680
<b>OATS</b>			
California <sup>2/</sup>			
Off-Farm <sup>1/</sup>	2,384	1,776	2,640
U.S. Total	2,589,040	1,302,048	2,375,712
<b>SORGHUM GRAIN</b>			
California <sup>2/</sup>			
Off-Farm <sup>1/</sup>	10,500	2,268	<sup>3/</sup>
U.S. Total	1,369,284	3,250,240	1,823,192

<sup>1/</sup> Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors.

<sup>2/</sup> California on-farm stocks and total stocks for barley, corn, oats and sorghum are not published separately, but are included in U.S. totals.

<sup>3/</sup> Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

# **PRICES RECEIVED BY CALIFORNIA FARMERS - SEPTEMBER 1999**

Prices received by California farmers at mid-September were above August for barley, all potatoes, summer potatoes, all hay, and alfalfa hay. Dry edible beans and hay other than alfalfa were below the previous month. The mid-September prices for wheat and Upland cotton lint were not published due to possible disclosure of individual operations. Prices were above a year earlier for all potatoes and summer potatoes, but were below September 1998 prices for dry edible beans and all types of hay.

## **U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DECLINES 1 POINT**

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in September was 97 based on 1990-92=100, down one point (1 percent) from the August index. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell affect the overall index. Lower seasonal marketings of cattle, broilers, wheat, and grapes more than offset the relatively higher marketings of soybeans, peanuts, corn, and potatoes. The marketing changes would have decreased the index two points, but were partially offset by the price increases. Price increases from August for milk, lettuce, tomatoes, and soybeans more than offset price decreases for hogs, grapes, potatoes, and onions.

Compared with September 1998, the All Farm Products Index was two points (2 percent) lower. Price decreases from September 1998 for broilers, soybeans, milk, and cotton more than offset price increases for cattle, hogs, calves, and wheat.

The September All Crops Index was 97, down 2 percent from August and 3 percent below September 1998. Price increases from August for vegetables, oilseeds, tobacco, and food grains offset price decreases for potatoes, dry beans, fruit and nuts, feed grains, hay, and cotton.

The September Food Grains Index, at 89, was up 2.3 percent from the previous month and 1.1 percent above September 1998. The September all wheat price, at \$4.27 cwt., was up 7 cents from the August price and 29 cents above September 1998.

The September Feed Grains and Hay Index was 82, down 3.5 percent from last month and 4.7 percent below September 1998. The corn price, at \$3.20 cwt., was up 7 cents from August, but 7 cents below the September 1998 price. The all hay price, at \$74.50 per ton, was down \$2.90 from last month and \$10.50 below September 1998.

## **AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS <sup>a/</sup>**

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		Sept. 1998	August 1999	Sept. 15, 1999	Sept. 1998	August 1999	Sept. 15, 1999
		Dollars					
Corn <sup>b/</sup>	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.27	3.13	3.20
Wheat <sup>b/</sup>	Cwt.	<sup>c/</sup>	<sup>c/</sup>	<sup>c/</sup>	3.98	4.20	4.27
Oats <sup>b/</sup>	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.34	3.02	3.22
Barley <sup>b/</sup>	Cwt.	<sup>c/</sup>	4.67	5.08	4.19	4.94	4.46
Sorghum Grain <sup>b/</sup>	Cwt.	---	---	---	2.91	2.89	2.79
Rice <sup>b/</sup>	Cwt.	---	---	---	9.35	7.62	7.59
Dry Edible Beans <sup>b/</sup>	Cwt.	31.20	34.50	29.30	19.30	18.80	18.10
All Potatoes <sup>d/</sup>	Cwt.	11.30	13.80	17.80	4.97	6.33	5.26
Winter	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	11.30	13.80	17.80	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled <sup>b/</sup>	Ton	91.00	71.00	75.00	85.00	77.40	74.50
Alfalfa Hay, Baled <sup>b/</sup>	Ton	93.00	72.00	77.00	87.10	81.50	77.30
Other Hay, Baled <sup>b/</sup>	Ton	71.00	64.00	53.00	74.90	62.80	63.70
Upland Cotton Lint <sup>b/</sup>	Lbs.	0.725	0.528	<sup>c/</sup>	0.671	0.530	0.518
Cottonseed	Ton	---	---	---	113.00	70.00	72.00

<sup>a/</sup> The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers. They are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

<sup>b/</sup> Previous month revised to monthly average.

<sup>c/</sup> Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

<sup>d/</sup> Monthly average.

## **INDEX NUMBER OF PRICES RECEIVED AND PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, UNITED STATES**

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	Sept. 1998	Aug. 1999	Sept. 1999	Sept. 1998	Aug. 1999	Sept. 1999
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	629	625 <sup>a/</sup>	618	99	98	97
All Crops	494	490	477	100	99	97
Food Grains	279	277 <sup>a/</sup>	283	88	87 <sup>a/</sup>	89
Feed Grains and Hay	307	302 <sup>a/</sup>	294	86	85	82
Cotton	567	448 <sup>a/</sup>	438	111	87 <sup>a/</sup>	85
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	447	543 <sup>a/</sup>	463	88	107 <sup>a/</sup>	91
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities,						
Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates <sup>b/</sup>	1,529	1,551 <sup>a/</sup>	1,559	115	117 <sup>a/</sup>	117
Parity Ratio <sup>c/</sup>	41	40	40	86 <sup>a/</sup>	84	83

<sup>a/</sup> Revised.

<sup>b/</sup> All production indexes as of 15th of month.

<sup>c/</sup> Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.

### Cash Income by Commodity Groups, 1996-98

Source of Income	1996	1997	1998
	\$1,000		
FIELD CROPS			
Alfalfa Seed	44,580	41,269	38,200
Barley	49,896	19,764	17,392
Beans, Dry	96,466	82,292	67,495
Corn for Grain	96,246	101,260	86,152
Cotton Lint	829,344	1,032,499	863,997
Cottonseed	117,871	126,604	66,344
Hay, All	590,860	783,050	601,794
Oats	3,925	3,844	2,391
Oil Crops	61,568	61,013	51,607
Potatoes (Excl. Sweet)	192,549	151,958	151,895
Potatoes, Sweet	59,415	55,993	52,694
Rice	240,763	312,594	324,154
Sugar Beets	104,017	120,582	117,740
Wheat	238,919	168,219	117,179
Other Seed Crops	111,540	144,969	149,089
Other Field Crops	141,190	153,142	155,450
TOTAL	2,979,149	3,359,052	2,863,573

Source of Income	1996	1997	1998
	\$1,000		
VEGETABLE CROPS			
	5,541,127	6,191,626	5,909,396
FRUIT & NUT CROPS			
	6,583,759	7,716,122	6,518,661
NURSERY & GREENHOUSE PROD.			
	2,281,327	2,550,199	2,468,541
CHRISTMAS TREES			
	12,491	10,469	11,000
LIVESTOCK & POULTRY PROD.			
	6,125,111	6,309,659	6,845,071
TOTAL CASH INCOME FROM MARKETINGS			
	23,522,964	26,137,127	24,616,242
FARM RELATED INCOME			
	1,629,094	1,504,578	1,277,814
GROSS CASH INCOME FROM FARMING 1/			
	25,152,058	27,641,705	25,894,056

1/ Includes value of home consumption, value of inventory adjustments, machine hire and custom work, forest products sold, rental value of farm dwelling, government payments, and other miscellaneous farm income.

Source: USDA Economic Research Service